

1.10. ABSTRACT

Method and apparatus for an Intelligent Prefix Dialer, eliminating the necessity for manually dialing a local area code as a prefix to a call within the same area code in telephone systems in which such action is a requirement. An Intelligent Prefix Dialer is quiescent and monitors the dialing sequence from the caller's Customer Premise Equipment, CPE, when off-hook condition has been sensed. When the caller wishes to dial seven digits or less of a telephone number, my invention parses a caller defined default prefix, with the abbreviated digits the caller has dialed to form a complete telephone number. The Intelligent Prefix Dialer changes state from quiescent to active and interrupts the call progress to clear the subscriber's telephone line. The Intelligent Prefix Dialer then dials the complete telephone number to successfully complete the call.

The Intelligent Prefix Dialer is also user programmable to dial Caller ID Blocking or Caller ID Sending * codes, (i.e., *67 or *82), the Intelligent Prefix Dialer intersperses the area code in the correct position before redialing the number, (i.e., *67NPA-Nxx-xxxx) to successfully complete the call. When required, the Intelligent Prefix Dialer is user programmable to dial 1 plus code access, (i.e. 1NPA-Nxx-xxxx)

Features of the Intelligent Prefix Dialer allow for the seamless, uninterrupted successful completion of dial sequences which a caller may initiate, such as, but not limited to, 411, 911, 0, 1-Nxx-xxxx., and various * codes required by the Central Office for special features subscribed to by the caller.